

## VARIGNY'S "FOURTEEN YEARS IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS."

Having arrived at the point in M. Varigny's history at which he himself is about to appear as an actor on the scene, we will leave him to tell his own tale without interruption, reserving our own comments to the close. Meanwhile we invite comment from those still residing here who are personally acquainted with the events about to be described. By some of those who have read his book, charges of inaccuracy have been brought against M. Varigny. Moreover, as we have already said, it is absolutely impossible for any one to relate contemporary history with strict impartiality. To which we may add that however much a man may be mixed up in affairs he can never know the exact truth concerning all that goes on about him, still less can he be sure that he rightly interprets the aims and motives of others. If then Varigny errs or exaggerates, infers too much or too little or the wrong thing, he may well be excused, unless there be evidence of some intentional misrepresentation, which from such study of the man as we have been able to make by the aid of his book we are not prepared to expect. At the same time we shall be glad to receive any corrections or criticisms which may occur to those of our readers who are, from personal knowledge, competent to furnish them.

We now resume our translation from the commencement of Varigny's ninth chapter.

"The death of Kamehameha IV, completely unexpected even by those around him, took everybody by surprise. The heir presumptive to the throne, Prince Lot, was absent. He did not even know the life of his brother was in danger. Absorbed in her grief, Queen Emma wept for the husband she had lost far more than for the throne of which this death deprived her. The aged Kekuanoua, the King's father, gazed in sad and silent grief upon this son lately so full of life, whom he had thought destined to survive him. Alone among the Ministers Mr. Wyllie looked after everything; he sent in haste for Prince Lot, and summoned his colleagues. The new Sovereign hastened to the Palace; his first impulse was to join his sister-in-law and his father in their grief, and to complain bitterly of the inattention of the doctors, who had neither foreseen the danger nor been present at the Palace when his brother expired. He then went to the Council-room, where the Ministers awaited him, and received from them their resignations. He begged them to continue to exercise their functions until he was able to give consideration to affairs.

"At two o'clock the Privy Council met at the Palace, and at three o'clock a public proclamation announced to the people the death of Kamehameha IV and the accession of Kamehameha V. At the same time Queen Emma received from the new Sovereign an invitation to continue to occupy the Palace and the assurance of his sympathy and his brotherly affection. From the next day the King gave himself to business. He discussed matters with his Ministers, then, shut up in his private room, he studied the new situation in which the death of his brother had placed him, his own past, his acquaintanceships and his political friendships.

"A partizan of progress, liberal by conviction, absolute by family tradition and character, Kamehameha V. had, up to this time, appeared to lean by preference towards the American party, which now based great hopes upon his accession. For many years a colleague of Mr. Wyllie's, he had often uttered and supported opinions opposed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, whose fecund verbosity and obstinacy, it was said, he endured with impatience. Nevertheless, now that he had become King, he did not hesitate to appeal to his experience and patriotism, and immediately took him as his confident in regard to his projects of reform and his plans for the future. It was only to him that he confessed his hesitations, and with him alone he discussed at the outset the appointments he intended to make, and the line of politics he intended to pursue.

"During this time the Palace, open to the public, was filled with the

funereal cries and chants customary under such circumstances. The whole population of Honolulu, swelled hour by hour by new arrivals from the outskirts, gathered around the apartment in which the body of the King lay in state. Night and day the dirges and cries were kept up, sometimes sad and monotonous—sometimes sharp and piercing. It is not possible to describe the singular scene which the immense yard of the Palace presented at night. Thousands of natives moved about in dense masses or sat squatted upon the grass. Discordant murmurs and cries arose from this crowd, which hundreds of torches borne by servants and soldiers lighted up in a fantastic manner.

"Without an excited public opinion discussed with inquietude what the new King would do. The American party, which was the most numerous, the strongest, and the most ambitious, expected great things from their intimacy with the Prince. Some of the more bold loudly predicted the downfall of Mr. Wyllie; all believed in the accession to power of a Ministry drawn almost exclusively from amongst their candidates. Numerous lists passed round from hand to hand, carrying the imprint of the same convictions, the same desires.

"The King gave up the first four days of November to consulting with Mr. Wyllie, and deciding what Ministers to choose. On the 5th of November, Mr. Wyllie sought me out in my office, and told me that he had the King's order to offer me the Ministry of Finance. This proposal did not altogether take me by surprise, yet influenced without being aware of it by the general opinion which pointed to the chiefs of the American party as called to power, I was astonished by an offer which seemed to indicate tendencies on the part of the King so opposed to those for which he was given credit.

"In fact everybody knew that I was, if not an adversary of the American party, certainly a partizan from conviction of the independence of the kingdom. As a Frenchman, I had neither the political sympathies of the Americans, nor those of the Protestant missionary party. I replied to Mr. Wyllie by asking for a list of the new Ministry, which he immediately gave me. In this combination he himself retained the portfolio of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Robertson, a Judge of the Supreme Court, and an Englishman by birth, became Minister of the Interior; finally, Mr. C. C. Harris, Crown Solicitor, joined the Cabinet as Attorney-General and Minister without portfolio.

"I asked Mr. Wyllie for twenty-four hours to reflect, promising an answer on the following day. It was understood that whether I accepted or refused I was to consider myself bound in honor not to divulge the arrangements I had been informed of; it was the King's wish that the list of the new Ministry should not appear until the Ministers had been able to concert among themselves, to receive such communications as he wished to make to them, and to decide unanimously upon the selection of new officials.

"I passed that day and the morning of the 6th in carefully weighing the offer that had been made to me, and in making for myself an exact estimate of the condition of affairs and of parties. My greatest anxiety was not to allow myself to be carried away by personal ambition, and not to accept unless, with the conviction that I could bring to the King some real help, and render to the country services which would justify his confidence.

"Already in 1858, as I have previously stated, I had after careful reflection refused the similar offer made to me by Kamehameha IV. That refusal reassured my conscience a little; it seemed to me that I might yield in 1863 to those personal considerations which I had resisted five years ago. I had acquired more experience, a greater knowledge of the country, above all I had studied, and in some measure formed and settled my ideas. Confidence had grown with the trial of my forces, and with the responsibility of the positions I had occupied. For many years I had employed the ample leisure which my duties, first as Chancellor, and afterwards as Acting-Consul, had left me, in studying the country, above all from commercial and political points of view; I had in my mind a settled

plan of reforms. The task which appeared to me undesirable and impossible in 1858 on the morrow of the conclusion of a treaty which had provoked in the Privy Council and among the public a violent hostility against France, seemed to me if not easy, at least possible in 1863. The principal obstacle that I saw was the anger which the entrance of a Frenchman into the Cabinet would arouse. I hoped to overcome that; circumstances aiding, I might succeed.

"I was therefore disposed to accept. The retention in office of Mr. Wyllie assured me of the assistance of a colleague on whom I should always be able to count. With Mr. Robertson I had but a slight acquaintance, but I knew him as a hard worker, as an intelligent man, and one who enjoyed the esteem of the public. I thought at the same time that it was a mistake to remove him from the Supreme Court, where it would be difficult to replace him; that perhaps on some points I should find him particularly opinionated and narrow in his ideas. All that was true, but I reckoned on time to bring us nearer together, and on mutual esteem to dissipate certain differences. Mr. Harris I was better acquainted with; his name will often recur in these pages, and I considered that the King had acted wisely in giving him a deliberative and consultative voice in the Cabinet; he was a man of action, full of resources, persevering to excess, with the good qualities and the defects of an American lawyer.

"As a Frenchman and an official, I could not accept the offer which had been made to me except with the approbation of my Government. I made a reservation in regard to this approbation which, under the circumstances, was not doubtful, and, on the day but one after, I informed Mr. Wyllie that, subject to this, I accepted the offer which he had conveyed to me. Mr. Wyllie carried my answer to the King, who sent for me to go and see him.

(To be continued.)

## The Conversion.

## PART I.

Sing gracious muse, and strike the chords with joy,  
The while I chant Hawaii's Lurid Boy.  
From California's foggy coast he came,  
His proud eye gleaming, and his head aflame;  
The seals, which guard the harbor's entrance,  
waited,

As out the gate the lurid youngster sailed;  
The sea gulls screamed a fond farewell, the loon  
The chorus joined, as toward the setting moon  
The good ship took the bright, fantastic youth.  
To shine in coral lands—a lamp of truth.  
Soft favoring winds, and friendly currents bore,  
The fiery exile to this tropic shore.

The wedding palms a welcome waved to him,  
And jealous sunsets saw their glories dim  
As bold against the western sea line red,  
Transfigured shone the exile's scarlet head.

Around him quickly thronged the godly clan,  
In homage of the stranger sinful man,  
Examples awful they had lacked, but here  
This son of malt, this worshipper of beer,  
This 'Frisco bacchanal presented now  
A field of promise for the godly plow.

They crowded round him, anxious each to give  
The Lurid Boy the initial purgative.

To cleanse him of the stains of gin and rum,  
And muster him with Christian fire and drum  
Into their pious ranks—the convert smiled,  
"Be not," he said, "my Christian friends beguiled,  
Although I fain would your kind natives please,  
Pray, let me, friends, reform by degrees;  
Don't shut me off by one ferocious pinch,  
But lug me heavenward, gently, inch by inch;  
I'm really anxious for the task, you see,  
Behold the sinner; make the Saint of me."

For many a day the pious brethren strove  
To win him from his ancient, godless love  
Of foaming beakers, and of fleshly strains,  
But ill-rewarded were their pious pains.  
For when they said, "He's saved! he's saved!  
Amen!"

The Lurid exile turned up drunk again,  
And when they bore the sinful lad to bed,  
They marked his nose gleam redder than his  
head;

And when they spoke of harps, and robes and  
death,  
They fell back stifled from his deadly breath.  
And when they whispered of the Saviour's love,  
They caught the scent of the deceitful clove.

Behold him now, all qualified to teach,  
And to all others moderation preach;  
To stir his brethren of the quill, and stand  
A moral light-house beaming o'er the land.

In Breslau a chimney shaft fifty feet  
high is composed entirely of paper pulp,  
which has been chemically impregnated  
so as to resist combustion. Paper has  
been put to some extraordinary uses, but  
this is perhaps the most astonishing  
violation of preconceived ideas yet at-  
tempted. The thing in order now will be  
gun-cotton crucibles. A paper watch has  
been recently exhibited by a Dresden  
manufacturer who claims that it will prove  
as serviceable in all respects as the  
watches in ordinary use.



GROVER CLEVELAND.

In 1870, Mr. Cleveland was chosen sheriff of Erie county, N. Y., and served a single term. In 1881 he was elected mayor of the city of Buffalo, in the same state, and on November of the following year he was elected governor of the state of New York by the largest majority ever given to any candidate for the same office in any state of the Union. Such is the brief but remarkably brilliant political career of one whose name will be presented to the national Democratic convention from the state of New York. Mr. Cleveland's success is due in a great measure to the straightforward business methods he uses in politics. He is peculiarly active in his work, giving his present office the benefit of long hours and the closest of personal attention. Mr. Cleveland is descended from a New England family noted for its religious zeal. His great grandfather was a Congregational minister of Norwich, Ct. His father, Richard Cleveland, was a Presbyterian. He married a Miss Neal, of Baltimore, and soon after settled as pastor of a little church in the town of Essex, New Jersey, where Grover was born March 18, 1837. Receiving a common school education and a brief course of study at an academy, young Grover determined at the age of eighteen to go west and seek his fortune, so he started for Cleveland, O., being attracted to that city because it bore his name. On his way there he stopped at Buffalo to visit his uncle, Mr. Lewis F. Allen, who offered him a clerkship in order to prevent him from going further west. This position he accepted, and soon after, determining on law as his profession, he entered the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers to study. In 1859 he was admitted to the bar. Four years later he was appointed assistant district attorney for the county of Erie, which position he held for three years. In 1865 he was nominated for district attorney, but was defeated. In 1871 he became a member of the law firm of Bass, Cleveland and Bissell.

Mr. Cleveland is one of a family of nine children. His widowed mother died in 1882. He is what the ladies would call good-looking, but is still a bachelor.

Street-Cars as Missionaires.  
(Foreign Letter.)

"When the question of introducing street-cars in India first came up, nearly twenty years ago," said John Stephenson, the famous car-builder, "one of the greatest obstacles to be considered was caste. It was easy to devise a method of separating, within reasonable limits, the various classes, for the cars could be made with two interior compartments, and with seats on top for passengers of inferior classes. But how to collect the fares was the question that puzzled everybody. A Brahmin conductor could not receive coins from the hands of his inferiors, nor could a Brahmin passenger receive change from a conductor of lower caste. There were many other regulations growing out of caste distinctions which threatened to make street-cars a failure in the cities of India. But the cars were sent out, and matters were left largely to adjust themselves. The result is that instead of caste making the street-cars a failure, the street-cars have made caste to a considerable extent a failure. They are now utilized in the principal cities of India very much as they are in New York.

"Besides doing away with caste obstacles to their success, the street-cars have removed many of the restrictions which caste put upon the transaction of business generally in that country. I am told that they have produced a very noticeable change in this respect—that they may be regarded, indeed, as among the chief instruments with which the changed order of things was brought about. Street-cars are a necessity, and whatever stands in the way of their use will be done away with by the people."

When the British government made it impossible to enforce forfeitures and other penalties by reason of the loss or renunciation of caste, a considerable step toward the abolition of caste distinctions was taken. No laws for the government of persons have been more rigid or more speedy in respect to their penalties than were the regulations of caste. In certain provinces of India, when under native rule, it was regarded as justifiable homicide for a man of high caste to strike dead a person of inferior caste who should touch him even by accident. One of the steps toward the present state of things were permitting a Brahmin to engage in pursuits which had been followed only by persons of inferior grade, while still prohibiting persons of low caste from taking upon themselves functions which belonged to those above them in rank.

In the present stage of the decay of caste very embarrassing conditions arise. Not long ago a man of good ability, but of inferior caste, was made a judge. He could sit in judgment upon the acts of Brahmins and even sentence them to imprisonment, but he could not sit at the table with them after quitting the court-room.

## What It Is Like.

Fogg says he doesn't believe it pays in the end to get your landlord to make extensive repairs. Putting new wood into an old building is like putting new cloth into old raiment. The rent is made worse.

## SQUIBS.

Under a State law of Michigan, people can be fined for profanity. Don't men never loose their collar-button in Michigan?

The following is a copy of a notice pasted up in the Council Bluffs, Iowa, police station: "No loafers allowed here, except police."

The opposition of the dudes to Logan was not adequately explained until it was learned that he had been known to speak of a vaux as a vase.

"Yes," said Miss Coffin, "I always felicitated myself that I should improve my name when I am married, and here I'm going to become Mrs. Tombs."

It's human nature to feel tickled when another person makes a mistake—unless he thinks your umberel is his'n or licks you for somebody else. Then 'tain't so funny.

Talk ain't no 'good unless there's sense behind it. Who would want to listen to an organ if the feller that plays didn't know no more than the one that furnishes the wind.

Another London theatre at Holborn, to be called the International, is to be opened by a Miss Dinorben. This lady adds to her printed announcement of the fact a postscript in Hebrew.

Ignorance is sometimes very delightful. "Were you hurt near any one of the vertebrae?" asked a lawyer of a witness who wanted damages. "No," was the answer, "I was hurt right on the race-course, close to the judge's stand."

The late Prince William of Orange kept sixty parrots in his bed-room. Though on account of his infirmities he could neither ride on horseback nor maintain his footing aboard a ship, he was a Major-General and a Rear-Admiral.

The first thing which General Lew Wallace did on his arrival from Turkey was, in his own words, "to get to an American hotel, and the next thing was to eat pan-cakes with butter and syrup, and wash them down with milk." There can be no doubt of the minister's patriotism.

The London Drama says: "It is whispered in London that the members of Mr. Irving's company are somewhat disappointed in being overlooked by the American press. Miss Millward and Mr. Terriss have attracted a little attention; the other actors have not been noticed."

"Fly Loo" is the name of a new gambling game that is played in cheap liquor saloons. The players sit around a table each having a lump of sugar in front of him. Then each player puts a dime or a quarter into the pool, and the man on whose sugar a fly first alights rakes in the wealth.

The shaft of the Washington monument lacks only forty feet of the point where the roof will begin. The work is progressing at the rate of nearly 4 feet a day. The wall at the upper course is now only a little over 2 feet thick. The foundation has thus far been compressed about an inch and a half, with the addition of about 200 feet of shaft. This settling has been so nearly even that the greatest deviation from an exact level is measured at one of the corners by a thickness less than that of a horse-hair.

The "Blarney Stone" is one of the large blocks of the wall of Blarney Castle, near Cork, Ireland. It is some three or four feet below the battlements, and is so called on account of an old local belief that to kiss the stone would confer upon one the greatest powers of persuasion, whether in love or in argument. In order to perform this feat, one must be suspended by the feet from the top of the castle in order to reach down to the stone. A person requires some degree of nerve to do this, with nearly a hundred feet of vertical wall below him.

New York is now lighted by electricity, gets its news by electricity, deals on the market by electricity, receives its quotations by electricity, has its photographs taken by electricity, talks by electricity, is treated for diseases by electricity, is elevated by electricity, and shortly expects to be carried by the same subtle and powerful agency. The latest application of the fluid was in Spruce street, where an elevator is now daily run in a six-story structure, with electricity as the motive power. The fluid is carried over house-tops for a distance of two blocks, and when applied in full force lifts over 2,000 pounds of freight with ease. Other elevators of the same character are being put in, and generating centres for the same purpose are talked of in several parts of the city. The electric currents used for any purpose are now measured and sold through a meter, after the manner of gas.